NAVAL AVIATION SAFETY CENTER NAVAL AIR STATION NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23511

14/kn Ser 659 29 May 1967

## SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IAW OPNAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

From: Commander, Naval Aviation Safety Center
To: Commanding Officer, Training Squadron THREE

Subj: VT-3 AAR ser 3-67A concerning T-28C BuNo 140541 accident occurring 30 March 1967, pilot McCABE

1. The subject report and all endorsements thereon have been reviewed. Commander, Naval Aviation Safety Center concurs with the comments and recommendations of the Aircraft Accident Board as modified by subsequent endorsers.

(b) (5)

(b)(6)

By direction

Copy to: CMC (Code AAP) NAVAIRSYSCOMHQ (AIR 404) (2) CNATRA CNABATRA NAVPLANTREPO COLUMBUS ORIGINAL

Code 34 10 May 1967

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

THIRD ENDORSEMENT on CO TRARON THREE AAR, ser 3-67A, concerning T-38C, BUNO 140541, accident occurring 30 Mar 1967, pilet McCABE

From: Chief of Naval Air Training

To: Commander, U. S. Naval Aviation Safety Center

Subj: Aircraft accident report; forwarding of

1. Forwarded, concurring in the conclusions and recommendations of the Aircraft Accident Board as modified by the subsequent endorsements.

(b) (6)

By direction

Copy to: COMNAVAIR CMC (Code AAP) CNABATRA COMNAVPLANTREPO COLUMBUS CO TRARON THREE

Code 05 3 May 1967

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST 3750.6

SECOND ENDORSEMENT on TRARON THREE Serial 3-67A, concerning T-28C, Buno 140541, accident occurring 30 March 1967, Pilot: McCABE

From: Chief of Naval Air Basic Training
To: Commander, U. S. Naval Aviation Safety Center

Via: Chief of Naval Air Training

Subj: Aircraft Accident Report; forwarding of

Ref: (a) CNABATRA Itr Code 103 of 15 MAR 1967

1. Forwarded. Concur with the conclusions and recommendations of the Aircraft Accident Board as modified by the first endorsement.

b) (5)

& H. armstrong

Copy to: NAVAVSAFCEN (2 direct) NAVAIRSYSCOMHQ CMC (Code AAP) NAVPLANTREP COLUMBUS TRARON THREE

Code 01 26 April 1967

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on Training Squadron THREE serial 3-67A, concerning T-28C, BUNO 140541, accident occurring 30 March 1967, Pilot McCABE

From: Commanding Officer, Training Squadron THREE To: Commander, U.S. Naval Aviation Safety Center

Via: (1) Chief of Naval Air Basic Training
(2) Chief of Naval Air Training

Subj: Aircraft Accident Report; forwarding of

1. Forwarded, with the following obsurvations

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

D. T. KARBAGESL

Copy to:
NAVAVSAFECEN 2cc
NAVAVSAFECEN 2cc
NAVALESYSCON HQ
CHC (Code AAP)
CNATRA
CNABATRA
NAVFLANTREP - COLUMBUS

Para 66, OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3750.6, effective edition

L ARCHAFT ACCIDENT HOARD APPOINTED BY & CO. TRARUN THREE	2 SERIAL NO 3-67A	ART : GENERAL  # 1. DTG (LOCAL) OF MISHAP  302326 March	# 4 MODEL AIRCRAFT T=28C	140541	-
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VIA.CO, TRARON THREE		W 11 INT OF DAY	# 12 TIME IN FLIGHT 1+37	# 13. FLIGHT CODE 3D1	
CNATRA		FROM South Wh	iting To Sout	h Whiting	
		Local VFR	UNK # 19 ELEVATION AT TIME OF	7,400	
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20 LIST MODEL BUND REPORTING CUSTODIAN AND NODE	D DAMAGE CLASSIF	CATION OF ANY OTHER A/C INVO	LVED (Gosphine OPNAY Some 37%)	i for made A/Co	

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OPNAV FORM 3750-1A (Rev. 3-63) Page 2

Para. 66, OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3750.6, effective edition

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(b) (6)		T IV SIGNATURES (b) (6)	N. A. C.	
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(b) (6)	LT, MC, USMR	VI-3 AVIATION	SAFETY OFFICER	UNIT BILLET

When preparing Incident and Ground Accident reports, items indicated by an asterisk in the upper right hand corner must be filled in.

Other items considered appropriate should also be filled in.

## PART V - THE ACCIDENT

- A. On 30 March 1967 a night familiarization lecture was given at 1600 CST to student aviators who were to night fly on this date. The lecture was given by CAPT (b) (6), USMC, and lasted until 1720 CST. The lecture was a little longer than usual in order to still doubts and fears the pilots might have had because of an accident the previous night.
- B. After the lecture, the students and their instructors launched on a Night Familiarization-ONE hop with 2/LT Peter F. McCAE, (b) (6)

  USMCR, launching with Marine instructor CAPT (b) (6)

  for a one hour instructional flight. From the rear cockpit, CAPT (b) (6)

  familiarized 2/LT McCABE with various check points he would be using on his solo flight following this FAM-1.
- C. After the high work was completed, 2/LT McCABE and CAPT (b) (6) entered the landing pattern and made several touch-and-go landings. (b) (5), (b) (6)

D. At 2149 CST, seven Night Familiarization-TwO solo aircraft were launched using runway 13 at South Whiting Field (enclosure (2)). 2/LT Peter F. McCABE was the first to launch in aircraft 2W305, BUNO 140541. After the seven solos had taken off, they entered a holding pattern, orbiting a relay tower at 2000!. When the orbit had been established around the Relay Tower, the solos in the holding pattern were instructed SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

to move to a new orbit around the town of Milton, This was done to make the Relay Tower orbit pattern available for the returning night navigational aircraft which had been previously launched. The night-navs were recovered on runway 13.

- E. Upon recovering the night-navs, the Runway Duty Officer noticed about a five knot to wind and changed the duty runway to runway 4 for the touch-and-go landings of the night fam solos (enclosure (2)).
- F. The night fam solos returned to the Relay Tower and were cleared to depart holding for a night entry to runway four. The holding departure and the night field entry were normal and in accordance with established procedures (enclosure (2)). All of the aircraft during the first approaches were close to the runway on the downwind leg because of a slight crosswind. However, the first aircraft, 2W305, corrected in his approach and had a good final approach and landing (enclosure (2)). Some of the other aircraft waved-off due to being close abeam and some made successful touch-and-go landings. Two other approaches were made by the solos without incident, except for two separate instances of an aircraft "cutting out" another aircraft on the crosswind leg of the touch-and-go pattern.
- G. After 301 had made his fourth touch-and-go, 305 made his fourth landing and take off, followed by 307.
  (b) (5), (b) (6)

The aircraft (305) disappeared below the runway lights for a moment, then reappeared climbing in a very nose high attitude and all of a sudden nosed over in a very steep angle for the ground. This aircraft went behind some trees and exploded into flames (enclosure (3) & (4)).

H. The tower operators and the crash crew responded immediately and within minutes the crash trucks were on the scene fighting the fire (enclosure (11)). After the fire was extinguished, medical department personnel removed the body of the pilot.

## PART VI - DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT

- A. Aircraft 2W-305, BUNO 140541, received strike damage due to impact with ground and subsequent burning (enclosure (9a) & (9b)).
- b. Engine Section. Impact of the aircraft resulted in the engine being pushed into the ground approximately three feet. The engine, accessories' section, and front cockpit were showed together (enclosure (8)). One propeller blade sheared in the blade root area and was thrown some distance from the wreckage.
- C. Wings and Fuselage. The wings and fuselage were mainly destroyed by fire, especially in the cockpit and wing root areas (enclosure (9a) 2 (9b)). All instruments were burned to such an extent that they were unusable by the accident board.

## PART VII - THE INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS

A. The accident occurred during an authorized Night Familiarization TWO solo flight which departed NAAS Whiting Field (South) at 2149 CST on
SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPMAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

30 March 1967. The aircraft crashed at 2326 CST, after being airborne 1 hour and 37 minutes. The normal syllabus for a Night FAM-TWO calls for a flight of 1.6 hours divided into touch-and-go landings for one-half of the period and air work in an orbit pattern around a fixed point for one-half of the period. In this instance, the orbit pattern air work was conducted first. The weather on the night of the accident was clear and moonless with a visibility of 8 miles.

The crash occurred in a densely wooded area, but the only trees that were broken were the two struck by the aircraft while it was still airborne (Pt. A-1, enclosure (6)). As shown in enclosures (6) and (7), these trees are close together and in close proximity to other trees. The fact that only these trees and no others were hit by the aircraft, indicates that 2W305 was in an approximate 90° angle of bank at this point. As shown in enclosure (6), the aircraft passed through these trees at approximately 100 feet of altitude heading 0h5 degrees, and impacted with the ground in a nearly vertical attitude. The wreckage came to rest on a heading of 250 degrees. As is shown in enclosures (9a) & (9b), the wings did not rip from the aircraft and the fuselage aft of the front SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OPNAVINST 3750.6 SERIES

cockpit did not telescope forward toward the engine area. (b)(5)

The landing gear was down and upon impact caused the fuel cells to rupture and release aviation fuel. This fuel caught fire and much of the aircraft in the area of the cockpits, engine, and wing roots was consumed by fire (enclosure (9a) & (9b)).

The pilot was killed on impact (enclosure (15)) and was located on top of and aft of the engine and accessories section that had been showed together (enclosure (8)).

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b) (5)